



## **Co-operative Energy Ltd**

71 Franciscan Avenue  
Frankston  
Victoria 3199

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Minutes of Co-operative Energy Ltd Board meeting, Spencer Street Railway Station Cafeteria, 28 January 1997

PRESENT: G. Charles, Tony Gill, David Griffiths, John Dick and Bill McPherson

MEMBER: Roger Lamb OTHER: Gavan Sheehan

APOLOGIES: Vern Hughes and Ian Pearce

1. Resolved that the minutes be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting of 28 June 1996 and be signed by the Chairman. CARRIED

### **Annual General Meeting**

The Chairman reported that he planned to meet with the auditor, Pobjoy, Mulhall & Associates on 31 January 1997.

2. Resolved that the AGM be held at 12.30 pm 25 February 1997 at the Piccol Credit Union and, if not possible, at the Internet Cafe in Collins Street. CARRIED

### **Membership Subscriptions**

The Secretary reported that Tony Gill and Bill McPherson had not paid their membership subscriptions.

### **Electric Industry Co-operative TaskForce**

The Secretary reported that the TaskForce was developing a scoping study which involved interviews with cooperatives, energy retailers and other interested parties. He reported that the following interviews had been conducted to date:

6 January: Waverley Co-operative

9 January: Rural Industries Cooperative

9 January: Energy Australia

15 January: United Energy

16 January: Eastern Energy

21 January: CUSCAL

22 January: CORRS

23 January: Eastern Suburbs Rental Housing Co-operative

24 January: YCW Co-operative Society Ltd

28 January: Australian Friendly Societies Association

28 January: Murray Goulburn Co-operative Co Ltd

3. Resolved to commend the Secretary and others involved in the Electric Industry Co-operative TaskForce initiative. CARRIED WITH ACCLAMATION

### **Sustainable Energy and Co-operatives**

The Secretary said that there had been no comments received on the submission which had been mailed to directors on 20 January 1997. He reported that submissions were due 31 January 1997.

4. Resolved that all directors who intend to comment on Sustainable Energy and Co-operatives do so by midnight 29 January 1997 and the Secretary be authorised to respond on behalf of the co-operative taking into account those responses. CARRIED

### **Co-operative Energy Web Site**

The Secretary said that there had been no comments on the material circulated to G.Charles, John Dick and Roger Lamb. A brief discussion focused on content, purpose and cost. The Secretary said that he was particularly interested in comments on the content. The Chairman said that directors had an obligation to respond.

### **Budget and Financial Control**

The Budget and Financial Control report was mailed to directors by the secretary on 16 January 1997. The Chairman said that he was not offended by criticism of his work as Treasurer by the Secretary.

5. That a levy of \$150 be introduced for 1996/97 which is to be paid as suits the member and negotiated with the co-operative. CARRIED

6. Resolved that a 1996/97 Budget be prepared based on a basic operating cost of \$2000. CARRIED

7. Resolved that the Treasurer be directed to prepare and circulate within a week a budget for the remainder of 1996/97. CARRIED

Bill McPherson said that he would talk to Peter McPherson as to whether or not he wished to continue his membership.

### **Commission Policy**

It was noted that Brunswick Energy & Environmental Services had paid Co-operative Energy Ltd a commission of 5% on work undertaken for the Goldfield & Esperance Development Committee. The figure had been negotiated with the Secretary.

8. Resolved that draft guidelines be prepared by Graeme Charles and David Griffiths on commissions for work generated by Co-operative Energy Ltd. CARRIED

### **Membership Strategy**

There was a brief discussion on the need to develop a membership strategy. Bill McPherson reminded that an early decision of the Board not to undertake a recruitment campaign.

8. Resolved that a membership strategy be developed. CARRIED

It was noted that David Griffiths, Bill McPherson and Gavan Sheehan would meet to develop this strategy:

11.00 am 581 King Street, North Melbourne.

### **Buildcheck**

Tony Gill reported that Buildcheck was discussing with the Federation the formation of a co-operative for building owners. He said he had met this day with Buildcheck Director John Atchison.

### **Treasurer Report**

The Treasurer reported that two outstanding debts had been paid - \$380 Pobjoy, Mulhall & Associates and \$100 True Colour Photocopying. He said there was one major outstanding debt of \$US150 to Robinson's Current Events. He said that during the last 12 months invoices were being paid promptly and that no new outstanding debts had been created.

**Hon. Chris Strong**

It was agreed that a briefing should be organised with the Hon. Chris Strong to discuss progress and the possibility of securing some government funds for promoting the co-operative option in rural areas. It was suggested that the briefing could be jointly organised by Co-operative Energy Ltd and the Co-operative Federation of Victoria Ltd.

Next Meeting: 12.30pm, 11 March 1997 at Piccol Community Credit Union unless otherwise advised.